

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-41 were rejected. Claims 1-37 and 39-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sallberg (2001/0043588) in view of Emery et al. (6519242). Claims 38 and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sallberg in view of Emery as addressed in claims 36, 37, 39 and 40, and further in view of Hartmaier (6304753). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

A common feature of each of the rejected claims is that service feature information for wireless devices is stored in a centralized location associated with a data network, e.g., in a data network feature server. Service features for wireless devices are obtained by accessing the centrally stored service feature information via the data network, e.g., via a wireless network switch that is connected to the data network, which in turn hosts or has access to the service feature information. In most cases, this avoids having to maintain separate HLRs and VLRs, and the overhead associated with the usual HLR/VLR intercommunication messaging.

As best can be determined by Applicants, the Sallberg reference lacks any teaching or suggestion of accessing a data network for the purpose of obtaining wireless device service feature information. Although paragraph 3 of the office action (lines 9-10) refers to a "switch (MSC/VLR) (fig. 3a number 320) for accessing a network for administering service features," the "network" referred to in Sallberg is most assuredly not the "Internet 390" shown in Fig. 3A, or any other "data" network. Rather, as stated on page 3, lines 10-14 of Applicants' previously filed office action:

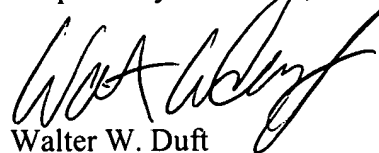
"... all service feature administration in Sallberg is performed by way of the MSC/VLR 320 and the HLR 370 in a manner that is more or less conventional in a cellular telephone system."

In other words, while the foregoing statement from paragraph 3 of the office action is true as written, if the word "data" is inserted before "network" (as required by Applicants' claims), the statement is no longer true. Sallberg does not make use of a data network to administer service features for wireless calls. To further clarify this point, the only "data" network shown in Sallberg is the "Internet 390" and it is not used to administer service feature information. Sallberg's feature server (element 325) is in the wireless network 305 and is accessed via conventional means without data network access.

The deficiencies of Sallberg are not ameliorated by Emery. In Emery, which is not directed to wireless communication, there are indeed central office switches (60, 140) that are connected via gateways (50,130) to data networks (20, 100). However, conventional wireless-type HLRs (40) and VLRs (120) are used during call setup and tear down. Applicants further note that service features are not mentioned per se in Emery. Even assuming routing information such as IP addresses, URL Addresses, and email addresses were service features, this information is not administered from a data network in Emery, but is stored in the HLRs and VLRs.

As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn, and that Notices of Allowability and Allowance be duly issued.

Respectfully submitted,



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